

**AN INSITU POST ETCH PROCESS TO REMOVE REMAINING  
PHOTORESIST AND RESIDUAL SIDEWALL PASSIVATION**

**ABSTRACT**

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A method for performing a metallic etch, etch mask stripping, and removal of residual sidewall passivation in a single etch chamber. A wafer is placed in an etch chamber. A metal etch is performed on the wafer. A stripping gas, such as a mixture of oxygen and argon is provided to the etch chamber and is energized to form an oxygen plasma. The oxygen plasma strips the etch mask from the wafer and removes residual sidewall passivation. The oxygen plasma also cleans the etch chamber.

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